

House farm bill moves forward

By Jessica Domel

After more than 12 hours of discussion, the House Agriculture Committee voted 33-21 to advance its version of the farm bill, the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2024, out of committee Thursday evening.

All 29 republicans and four democrats on the committee voted in favor of the food and farm legislation.

“I feel really good about it. In every farm bill, you go through some sort-of partisan back and forth, and it's usually dealing with the farm policy side of the farm bill and the nutrition side. That was the case here too, in addition to some of the climate guardrails on the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) spending,” Laramie Adams, associate director of Government Affairs for Texas Farm Bureau (TFB), said. “Through all this debate, it's very positive to see that four democrats actually crossed over and voted in favor of reporting the bill out of committee to the full House.”

The four democrats who supported the bill were: Don Davis of North Carolina, Yadira Caraveo of Colorado, Eric Sorensen of Illinois and Sanford Bishop of Georgia.

“Texas Farm Bureau was in D.C. ahead of time visiting with different staff and members on the hill. We were glad to see a bipartisan vote out of committee, and I think that that does put us in the right direction to get this bill done,” Adams said.

The 12-title, 900-plus page bill crafted by House Ag Committee Republican leadership, led by Committee Chairman Glenn “GT” Thompson, includes many of TFB's priorities for a farm bill.

“The biggest thing is just increasing the farm and ranch safety net in the farm bill, and that's done through increased



FFA! Robert Lee High School recently competed at the Area II contest. Rhett Rangel competed in Ag Tech and Comm. Sr. Prepared Public Speech and placed fifth. He also competed along with Wyatt Bosworth and Kaylee Pentecost in the talent contest. The trio (right photo) placed first in the talent convention this summer.

reference prices. That's been the number one thing that we have all said has to be done for Texas Farm Bureau to support a farm bill. That was a promise that GT made, and he fulfilled that,” Adams said. “In addition to that, you see a lot of more investments in the future of agriculture and the future of feeding and clothing consumers.”

(Continued on next page)



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